

A new abstract page is supplied to conform to that appearing on the publication page of the WIPO application, but the new Abstract is typed on a separate page as required by U.S. practice.

Applicant respectfully requests that the preliminary amendment described herein be entered into the record prior to calculation of the filing fee and prior to examination and consideration of the above-identified application.

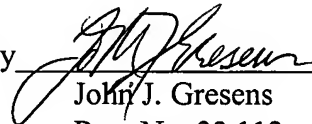
If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Applicant's primary attorney-of record, John J. Gresens (Reg. No. 33,112), at (612) 371.5265.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: 7 November 2001

By


John J. Gresens
Reg. No. 33,112

JJG/kjr

MARKED UP COPY OF CLAIMS

5. Process according to [any one of the preceding]claim[s] 1, characterized in that use is made of alarm means or means for preventing spontaneous ignition and/or explosion of said atmosphere when the time elapsed from the moment of creation of said atmosphere approaches the critical moment (τ_1) of spontaneous ignition.

6. Process according to [any one of the preceding]claim[s] 1, characterized in that the implementation of the alarm means and/or means for preventing spontaneous ignition and/or explosion of said atmosphere is engaged manually or automatically.